

Incident Report on March 22, 2011

This report is in regard of an inconclusive result for a suspected trace heroin residue on buprenorphine whole and half tablet in one plastic bag.

Event/Analytical Time Line is as follows:

02/23/11- Both tablets analyzed for suspected buprenorphine using gc. The chromatograph result was positive for buprenorphine with standard and a suspect trace of heroin too weak to be detected by gc-ms according peak area.

02/25/11- Both vials were submitted for gc-ms analysis for buprenorphine only.

03/03/11- Peter Piro upon reviewing the gc-ms raw data found very weak heroin peaks on the gc-ms chromatograms of both samples and Peter decided confirm the presence of these weak heroin peaks even though, I did not see a preliminary spot test for a suspect heroin.

03/07/11- Chuck was present when Peter and I were having a discussion about his decision to confirm of the presence of trace heroin peaks. Chuck and I disagreed with Peter's decision to go forward. Chuck said that Peter is fully responsible for this and that he will be the one testifying as second chemist. The vials were concentrated and resubmitted for a heroin confirmation.

03/09/11- One of the vials resulted as inconclusive according to Peter's criteria even though the quality match was a 95 pick and within the retention time of a known heroin standard. I asked Chuck to oversee this matter with me and Peter. I asked to see the gc-ms raw data of these samples and to why I had to see them, so Chuck told him to show me. I could clearly see all the major ions on the chromatogram for heroin but, according to Peter, this did not fit his gc-ms analytical criteria using a method that Chuck does not approve. I did not agree with calling it inconclusive when clearly heroin was present and Chuck said that he was fully responsible for his decision. Peter agreed the decision was his but, did not want to report the heroin and inconclusive confirmatory results even though, it was documented on the gc-ms chain of custody forms under comments as heroin for both vials. Peter abruptly refused to sign the certificate of analysis for confirming both the heroin and inconclusive results. He also refuses to analyze any of my samples and sign any of my certificates.

Note: Peter exhibited a type of mannerism that was inappropriate and unprofessional as supervisor of gc-ms especially in responsibility.